

Muskogee Cimeter.

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MUSKOGEE, IND. TER.

NEW STATE NEWS.

The Katy and Rock Island railroads have reduced the rate on coal from the Indian Territory coal fields to Oklahoma City. Coal is being laid down to dealers in the metropolis at \$2 per ton.

Hon. Dennis Flynn, who has recently returned from a trip to Washington, says the date of February 1st has been generally agreed upon as the time of passage of the statehood bill.

Samuel A. Robinson, who was convicted of manslaughter by the Caddo county district court and sentenced to serve eight years in the Lansing penitentiary, has appealed to the supreme court of Oklahoma.

The single statehood delegation of the two territories will start for Washington January 7th. The object of the delegation is to work for several amendments to the pending statehood bill.

The jury at Oklahoma City, in the case of the territory against Oscar Leverich, who was tried for killing his brother-in-law, Oscar Smith, returned a verdict of acquittal.

The Pioneer Telephone and Telegraph company is to install a new switchboard with a capacity of 2,200 'phones in Tulsa. Nine new toll lines are to be built in the territory within the next six months by the same company.

Several towns in Indian Territory are establishing public libraries, and where assistance can not be secured from the municipal government entertainments are arranged with cloth or leather bound books as admission fees.

The franchise of the Fort Scott base ball club, which was formerly a part of the Missouri Valley league, but now the Western association, has been transferred to Guthrie.

Oklahoma City will ask the coming legislature to grant a new charter. The chamber of commerce is at work preparing plans of one that will meet the requirements of the present time, as the city has outgrown the present one.

Morris S. Simpson, a dry goods merchant at Lawton, has filed a petition in bankruptcy. His liabilities are placed at \$49,000 and assets at \$36,000. Surety bond payment is given as the cause of the failure.

There were over one hundred convictions at the recent term of court at South McAlester, ranging from thirty days to life imprisonment. More than three hundred indictments were returned by the grand jury.

John F. Davidson of Aline, who a year ago was taken to Ohio to answer to the charge of arson, died in prison, where he was serving a sentence for a crime of which his friends believed him innocent. He was a highly respected merchant and citizen at Aline and the evidence upon which he was convicted was purely circumstantial.

Governor Ferguson has offered a reward of \$500 for the arrest of the person or persons who murdered William Agee in Jones, who was mysteriously murdered and his body buried, but the remains were disinterred by hogs and dogs. Two men, Bratcher and Soper, were arrested at Kent, Texas, and believed to be guilty of the heinous crime.

Eager Enough.

Mr. Timmid—"I don't think there's any use in my offering my hand to Miss Coy; she's so indifferent."

Mr. Wise—"Indifferent? Have you said anything to her?"

Mr. Timmid—"No, why?"

Mr. Wise—"I'll bet you'll find her indifference is on a par with that of the convivial gent who says: 'I don't care if I do.'"

Lacked a Lawyer's Facility.

Lawyer to witness—Never mind what you think, we want facts here. Tell us where you first met this man.

Woman witness—Can't answer it. If the court doesn't care to hear what I think there's no use questioning me, for I am not a lawyer and can't talk without thinking.—Boston Bulletin.

Very Essential.



Mamie—"Tain't ther clothes what makes ther man, Jimmy."

Jimmy—"What! Say, did you ever have yer clothes swiped when you was in swimmin'?"

A Changed Woman.

"Well, well," said the returned traveler, "and so you are married now. It seems only yesterday since you left school. How time does fly!"

"Yes," replied Mrs. Younger, "only a short time ago I never clipped anything from the papers but poems, and now I clip nothing but recipes."

A Puzzler.

Uncle Josh—"Did you notice that fellow with side whiskers an' a monocle? Aunt Hetty—Yes, I s'pose he jest wears it becuz it's fashionable."

Uncle Josh—"Yes, but I was jest wonderin' why they never made it fashionable to wear side whiskers jest on one side."

Too Bad.

"Hello, Ragsey!" said the first newsboy, sarcastically. "I didn't see yer at de Astorbilt weddin' last night."

"No," replied the other. "I wuz all ready to go, but me bloomin' valet didn't show up in time to mannyure me fingernails."—Philadelphia Press.

Too Much to Expect.

"See here, landlord, must I sit here forever before I get the half chicken that I have ordered?"

"Oh, no, sir! I'm only waiting till somebody comes and orders the other half. Of course, I can't kill a half a chicken!"—Fliegende Blaetter.

Those Hind Feet.

First Farmer—"Thet's not the way to ride a mule; why don't yer set farther front?"

Second Farmer—"Say, don't I know which end of this here mule I want ter keep on ther ground?"—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Not All Accounted for.

Gerald—"There's a fool born every minute."

Geraldine—"But that would be only sixty an hour."

CAMPFIRE TALES.

Never Mind the Old Times.

Never mind the old times; They were bright an' sweet! Sunny skies above you— Violets at your feet; But the new times wear a smilin' face That's mighty good to meet. An' you'd better find the light that makes the mornin'!

Never mind the old times; They were great, I know; Old friends that we loved so! But the new times sing the song of Hope Where sweeter roses grow. An' you'd better find the light that makes the mornin'! —Frank L. Stanton, in Atlanta Constitution.

Eccentric Colonel Burke.

"Yes," said Gen. Coates. "I knew Col. Martin Burke, who was in command at Fort Lafayette when prisoners therein quartered made the fort and the commander subjects of controversy. Apart from any controversy, Col. Burke was an interesting personality and an old character. I remember him as one of the old school army officers given to some eccentricities that made me smile then and often cause me to smile now. He occupied a trying position, but he made minding his own business a matter of professional pride, and he never would go near Washington for fear that some investigating committee would get hold of him."

"The boys on duty at Fort Lafayette had a constant reminder of the colonel's kindness of heart. He found, on occasion, a dog hurt in collision with an army wagon or a gun carriage. The dog's leg was broken, and he was in pitiable condition, and the colonel's orderly reported that he was no better than a dead dog. The colonel, however, ordered the poor little beast taken to his own quarters, and in due time the dog recovered, with a supreme disregard of all military regulations and proprieties."

"This latter quality undoubtedly grieved the colonel, but he stood by the mischievous puppy through thick and thin, and wherever the colonel went with his traditional dignity went Sam, the puppy, with his abnormally developed bump of mischief. The colonel always appeared on dress parade in the full dress of the old-time regulars, and he held every man in line to a most serious cast of countenance and most dignified manner. The uniform, as Burke wore it, was queer enough to make any man smile, but Sam, at these parades, was a full comedy in himself."

"He would caper about the colonel's legs, indulging in pranks that would make a horse laugh, and yet the colonel stood there in stately pose, blind to the puppy's pranks, but watchful as to the expression on the faces of the officers and men in line. These poor fellows nearly died of suppressed laughter, and they were always wondering what Sam would do next. But whatever they expected him to do, he always did something else, and no matter what he did, the colonel stood by him."

"The men on duty at Fort Lafayette in the latter part of the civil war may have forgotten the most notorious prisoners held there, but I will venture to say that not one of them has forgotten the eccentric colonel or his patient orderly, or the dog Sam. Those nearest the colonel testified that the orderly never showed impatience or irritation except on one occasion. The colonel had worked late one night on some perplexing papers, and, halting for a moment in his work, pushed his spectacles up well on his head, instead of taking them off."

"This was his regular habit, but on this occasion he pushed the glasses back farther than usual, and when, on resuming his work, he put his hand up he found no spectacles. This was disconcerting and irritating, and he shouted, 'Orderly, orderly, come here, sir!' The orderly had been sound asleep for two hours, but he jumped

up, wriggled into his clothes, and presented himself to his absent-minded colonel. Burke looked him over in disapproval of his unusual appearance and snapped out, 'My glasses.'

"The orderly turned on his heel without a word and in a minute placed before the colonel two glasses, a pitcher of water and a decanter. Burke looked at him in amazement and roared, 'My glasses, you fool. My spectacles, my spectacles!' Then the worm turned. 'Yure glasses, colonel, said the orderly, 'are on the top of your head, sor. An' ye call me from me bed to tell ye that' The colonel in high dudgeon put his hand to his head, but found the glasses, and then said, 'Having found the glasses, go to bed at once. I never would have found them myself.' Any reference to Hotel Lafayette, or Bastille Lafayette, or Fort Lafayette always brings to my mind the figure of quaint but soldierly Col. Martin Burke."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

The Badge Money Cannot Buy.

A heavy disk of bronze, bearing the state seal surrounded by the inscription, "Department of Michigan, G. A."



MICHIGAN.

R." designates the comrades of the Michigan department. Upon the reverse appears the little bronze button surrounded by the words, "38th National Encampment G. A. R., Boston." This disk is pendent from an oxidized silver pin by a cherry ribbon on which is the place and date of the national encampment in gold letters. The pin is lettered "Organized May 6, 1868 Michigan."

Their Sons in Civil War.

An inquiry whether any man was living in North Carolina who had sons in the confederate army is eliciting replies of an astonishing character.

A letter from Hillsboro states that James D. Daniel of Orange county, now 97, had five sons in the confederate army. Three of these are living.

In the same township W. G. Wright is still living, 88 years of age. His son, J. B. Wright, was in the confederate army.

At the soldiers' home one of the inmates named Bunn served in the same company with two sons. There is also at the soldiers' home a veteran who served in the Indian war of 1835, the war with Mexico and the civil war, and never received a wound. He is 93 years old and is active and interested in everything.—New York Herald.

Battery in Reunion.

The annual reunion of the survivors of the Fifth New York Independent Battery, Light Artillery, was held in New York last week. The battery was organized by Capt. E. D. Taft in Brooklyn on August 15, 1861, mustered into the United States army Nov. 8, 1861, and served in the Army of the Potomac until May 19, 1864. It then served with Gen. Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley and was mustered out of the service July 6, 1865. The old comrades greeted each other on the forty-third anniversary of the muster in. Letters were read from absent comrades.